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NFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY

Jordan

REPORT NO.

C\$ -104995

SUMECT

Activities of Hajj Amin al-Husayni in

DATE DISTR.

REFERENCES

2 October 1956

Syria, August 1956

NO. PAGES

REQUIREMENT NO.

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DATE OF

4 August 1956

Jordan, Arman (18 August 1956)

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

A regular source (B); from a source close to Hajj Amin al-Husayni (F). Appraisal of Content: 2.

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One of the main purposes of the visit of ex-Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Hajj Amin al-Husayni, to Syria in July-August 1956, was to arrange a truce between the Ikhwan al-Muslimiin (Moslem Brotherhood) in Syria and Jamal 'Abd-al-Masr at the latter's request. Masr vanted the Ikhwan to stoy working against him, and to support him on the Suez Canal issue. The Syrian Ikhwan informed Hajj Amin that in return for this reversal in policy, they would require the following concessions from Hasr:

- Freedom to re-establish their organization in Cairo as a legally licensed group,
- Return of all funds and properties formerly confiscated, to the Ikhwan,
- c. Release of all Ikhwan members now in prison,
- Permission for Ikhwan members to join the "Palestine Liberation Army" now being formed by Hasr.1
- During Hajj Amin's stay in Syria he visited the Jordan Embassy in Damascus and requested that exiled Jordanian Ikhwan activists be permitted to re-enter Jordan. This request was transmitted to Jordan, and King Husayn gave his consent. As a result, Hajj Amin plans to have two of his followers, Ishaq Darwish and Minif al-Husayni, stand for parliament in the Jerusalem district, where the ex-Mufti still has a strong following.2
 - 1. Field Comment. This is directly at odds with a remark made by King Husayn, in mid-August, to the effect that it was his understanding that Wasr was dumping Hajj Amin. We are inclined to favor the above report, rather than the King's. Source is usually better informed on Mufti activities than the King who sometimes reflects misinformation fed him by his advisors. It is possible also that the King has been misled by the Egyptians who would have the obvious motive of wanting to placate his distrust of their

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Field Comment (Continued)

relationship with Hajj Amin, i.e., Egyptian intentions regarding Palestine.

2. Source Comment. So strong is the ex-Mufti's following in the Jerusales district that Darwish and Husayni stand an excellent chance of winning two of the four Jerusalem seats, if they do run.

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